

I commend and thank Senator Thurman Adams for his innumerable contributions and many years of admirable service to the State of Delaware. I am confident that he will continue to serve the people of Delaware with passion and excellence and I am very proud to call him my friend.

CONGRATULATING THE ARMY
RESERVE ON ITS CENTENNIAL

SPEECH OF

HON. STEVE BUYER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 8, 2008

Mr. BUYER. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of House Joint Resolution 70. The Centennial of the Army Reserves marks our proud heritage of citizen soldiers who have always answered the call to duty with honor and pride. I want to thank my colleagues Mr. BISHOP, Mr. TAYLOR, and Mr. SHIMKUS for their leadership on this resolution. As an original cosponsor of this resolution and as a co-chair of the National Guard and Reserve Components Caucus, I'm very pleased that 260 of my colleagues from both sides of the aisle recognize the crucial impact the members of the Army Reserve have had on this great Nation throughout its 100-year history.

Over my 28 years of service as a member of the Army Reserve, I have had the good fortune to see firsthand the actions of the men and women of this fine organization—they are the virtual bedrock of our Nation. I've seen the dedication of these Citizen-Soldiers operating across the United States; in the Netherlands, Belgium, and Germany; during Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm in Kuwait and surrounding countries; and in the current conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan. Regardless of the operating environment or the personal sacrifice required, these great Americans have responded again and again to our Nation's call. From the initial call-up of the Army Reserve to run down the bandit "Pancho" Villa, through bloody battles in World Wars I and II, to the wars in the Persian Gulf, they have always answered the Nation's call in its time of need, riding toward the sound of the guns, around the world, without hesitation.

Today's Army Reserve can no longer be characterized as a strategic reserve; it is an operational force called upon to be at the forefront of our Nation's warfighting capability. Of the 180,000 officers and enlisted soldiers serving in today's Army Reserve, nearly 3,000 are Hoosiers. I'm extremely proud of these men and women and the sacrifices that they make every day to keep our Nation free and safe.

Lieutenant General Jack Stultz, the Chief of the United States Army Reserve, recently said, "Our Citizen-Soldiers depend on their families, friends, civilian employers, and community to help them balance their responsibilities and commitments." And so, to those who support our federal Citizen-Soldiers, I offer my heartfelt thanks and congratulations for helping make this centennial possible. And to the families and loved ones of the 156 soldiers of the Army Reserve who have borne the ultimate sacrifice in support of Operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom, including the family of Staff Sergeant Keith Maupin whose body was identified only days ago after being

classified as missing-captured for nearly 4 years, I offer my deepest thanks and respect for your sacrifice. And to the family of Sergeant Ahmed Altaie, who is still listed as missing-captured after 16 months, I offer my continued hope and prayers.

At any given time, more than 20,000 Army Reserve Soldiers are deployed to no fewer than 18 countries around the world. Their efforts ensure that America's vital national security interests are fulfilled and that our homeland is protected. I am proud to be counted among their ranks.

These Soldiers and their loved ones shoulder a greater share of our burden than at any time in our Nation's history. This resolution represents an opportunity for Congress to recognize the incredible history of service, sacrifice, and accomplishment of those Soldiers who have served in the Army Reserve since its inception. Please join me in celebrating that heritage and recognizing their proud history by supporting this resolution.

CONGRATULATING THE ARMY
RESERVE ON ITS CENTENNIAL

SPEECH OF

HON. TODD TIAHRT

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 8, 2008

Mr. TIAHRT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to join my colleagues in support of H.J. Res. 70, congratulating the Army Reserve on their 100-year history. The U.S. Constitution of 1789 and the Militia Act of 1792 officially reaffirmed the continued reliance of the new Nation on the citizen-soldier for defense. According to Army Reserve Historian Lee S. Harford, Jr., the antecedents and heritage of the current United States Army Reserve are found in the tradition of the "federal" or "national" American citizen-soldier, dating back at least as far as the French and Indian War (1756–1763). America would be a very different place were it not for the patriotism and dedication of these citizen-warriors.

Members of the Army Reserve bring maturity, experience and civilian-acquired skills to the active military components and since September 11, 2001, over 188,025 soldiers have been mobilized in support of Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom. The Army Reserve provides trained and ready soldiers and units with the critical combat service support and combat support capabilities necessary to support Nation strategy during peacetime, contingencies and war. They are a key element in the Army multi-component unit force, training with Active and National Guard units to ensure all 3 components work as a fully integrated team.

Since September 11th, the Nation's Reserve Components have evolved from a strategic force in reserve to an operational force that is constantly deployed. Gone are the days of working 2 weekends a month and 2 weeks in the summer. The on-going Global War on Terrorism has seen citizen-warrior deployments go from 1 in every 5 years to now 1 in every 2–3 years. Army Reserve members are deployed all around the world and fulfill a wide range of capabilities that include war-fighting, humanitarian assistance, disaster relief, and post-conflict and transitional operations such

as democracy building, stability efforts and peace-keeping. Many of my fellow Kansans share in this tremendous Army Reserve tradition, as members of the 89th Regional Readiness Command. Their mission is to help train and deploy America's most effective supporting ground forces.

Army Reserve soldiers must balance military obligations with family obligations and also manage a delicate balance with their full-time civilian careers. Employers must cope with these year-long deployments and balance the instability created from having one less employee to conduct business. Additionally, we as a Nation must ensure that these Army Reserve heroes are taken care of when they return from deployments. We must properly treat returning soldiers for post traumatic stress disorders, and ensure their transition back to civilian life is as smooth as possible.

I encourage my colleagues to support this important resolution and am pleased that today the House recognizes the role of the Army Reserve.

HONORING MR. JOSEPH DELANEY
FOR HIS YEARS OF COMMUNITY
SERVICE ON STATEN ISLAND,
NEW YORK

HON. VITO FOSSELLA

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 15, 2008

Mr. FOSSELLA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a pillar of community service in my district, Mr. Joseph Delaney. The University of Notre Dame Alumni Association officially recognizes 230 Alumni clubs throughout the world. This includes the University of Notre Dame Alumni Club of Staten Island, located in my Congressional District. For 10 years the Staten Island Club was led by a gentleman I rise to honor today, Mr. Joseph Delaney.

During Joe's leadership, the Alumni Club became one of the most altruistic, charity-oriented organizations on Staten Island. The University of Notre Dame Alumni Association recognized the Staten Island Club with its prestigious Charlie F. Lennon Award, recognizing it as the most outstanding club in the entire network, in both 1999 and 2005. The club was also recognized by the University Alumni Association as the most outstanding club for their size of membership three times, in 1997, 2002, and 2005.

Joe's community service is not restricted solely to his leadership of the Alumni Club. In the wake of the 9/11 terrorist attacks Joe arranged for the University of Notre Dame Glee Club to visit Staten Island and headline a fundraiser which raised \$11,000 to help the families of police and fire officers who died at the World Trade Center. On two separate occasions Joe has coordinated fundraisers for the benefit of St. Peter's Elementary School raising a total of \$17,000 for the school.

While no longer serving as the Club's President, Joe continues to direct their annual Christmas Toy Drive which aides the Salvation Army, The New York Foundling Hospital, and the Seaman's Society. He also coordinates their Annual Thanksgiving Clothes Drive which provides coats to the needy at Project Hospitality. One of Joe's greatest charity successes has been building the annual "Bread of Life Food Drive." Through this drive the Alumni